

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 2077

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served January 11, 1980

Application of ATWOOD'S )  
TRANSPORT LINES, INC., for )  
Authority to Increase Rates )

Case No. AP-80-01

On January 3, 1980, Atwood's Transport Lines, Inc., filed its WMATC Tariff No. 29 proposing to cancel WMATC Tariff No. 27. While the tariff proposes increased rates for regular-route, special and charter operations, only the proposal to increase rates for regular-route service will be considered in this order.

Whenever possible, the Commission attempts to schedule an informal public hearing on such matters at a location near the affected regular route and at a time likely to be convenient to the users of the service. Such a hearing is in addition to such formal proceedings as the Commission may otherwise direct.

The existing and proposed rates are set forth below:

<u>Between</u>	<u>One-Way Fares</u>		<u>Ten-Ride Fares</u>	
	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<u>Washington, D.C. and</u>				
Silver Hill, Md.	\$1.15	\$1.30	\$ 8.65	\$ 9.55
Camp Springs, Md.	1.15	1.30	8.65	9.55
Clinton, Md.	1.30	1.45	9.75	10.75
T.B. Junction, Md.	1.60	1.80	12.00	13.20
<u>Silver Hill, Md. and</u>				
Camp Springs, Md.	1.10	1.25	8.25	9.10
Clinton, Md.	1.10	1.25	8.25	9.10
T.B. Junction, Md.	1.25	1.40	9.40	10.35
<u>Camp Springs, Md. and</u>				
Clinton, Md.	1.10	1.25	8.25	9.10
T.B. Junction, Md.	1.10	1.25	8.25	9.10
<u>Clinton, Md. and</u>				
T.B. Junction, Md.	1.10	1.25	8.25	9.10

Ten-ride commutation tickets are valid under both tariffs for a period of one month from date of sale.

Title II, Article XII, Section 6(a)(1) of the Compact authorizes the Commission to suspend any fare, regulation or practice at any time prior to the effective date thereof. In considering whether such fare, regulation or tariff shall be suspended, the Commission must consider, inter alia, the financial condition of the carrier, its revenue requirements, and whether the carrier is being operated economically and efficiently. Further, the Compact, Title II, Article XII, Section 6(a)(2) mandates that fares, regulations or practices relating thereto must be just, reasonable, and not unduly preferential either between riders or sections of the Metropolitan District. Subsections (a)(3) and (a)(4) list additional considerations, including the need, in the public interest, of adequate and efficient transportation service by a carrier at the lowest cost consistent with the furnishing of such service, and the opportunity for a carrier to earn a net return of at least 6.5 percent after all taxes properly chargeable to transportation operations. Atwood's has asserted that operation under existing regular-route fares resulted in a loss to the company of \$89,566 during the 12-month period ended October 31, 1979.

Any person wanting to comment on the above-referenced fare increase proposal is invited to do so at a public hearing to be held at 8:00 p.m., Thursday, February 7, 1980, at Gwynn Park Senior High School, 13800 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, Md. 20613. Representatives from Atwood's will be available to explain the company's decision to seek a fare increase and members of the public may offer testimony. Inasmuch as this is an informal hearing, no cross examination of witnesses will be permitted, although all testimony will be under oath and recorded.

Applicant will be assessed an amount preliminarily estimated to be sufficient to cover the expenses which the Compact, Title II, Article XII, Section 19(a) requires the carrier to bear.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That an informal public hearing at which the public may comment on the above-described regular-route fare increase proposal is hereby scheduled to commence on Thursday, February 7, 1980, at 8:00 p.m. at Gwynn Park Senior High School, 13800 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, Md. 20613.

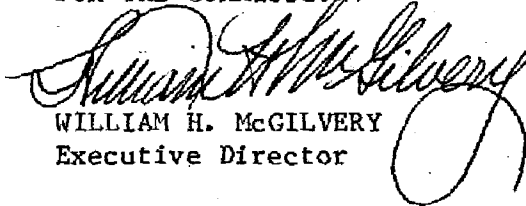
2. That Atwood's Transport Lines, Inc., is hereby directed to appear at said hearing through an individual or individuals who can explain to the public applicant's regular-route fare increase request and the reasons therefor.

3. That any person desiring to comment on the proposed regular-route fares is hereby directed to so notify the Commission, by written communication to W.M.A.T.C., Suite 316, 1625 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006, to be received no later than Wednesday, January 30, 1980.

4. That Atwood's Transport Lines, Inc., is hereby directed to post notice of the hearing, in the form prescribed by the staff of the Commission, conspicuously in each vehicle used to provide service over the regular route no later than Monday, January 14, 1980, and maintain such notice continuously through the date of the hearing.

5. That Atwood's Transport Lines, Inc., is hereby assessed \$250 pursuant to Title II, Article XII, Section 19 of the Compact and is directed to deliver said sum to the office of the Commission no later than 12 noon on Monday, February 4, 1980.

FOR THE COMMISSION:



WILLIAM H. MCGILVERY  
Executive Director

